


REPORT
OF THE
Medical Officer of Health
FOR THE
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL
OF
WALTON-LE-DALE,
FOR THE YEAR 1919.

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STATEMENT BEARING ON THE GEOLOGICAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE DISTRICT.

The district is roughly quadrangular in shape, having an average width from east to west of some $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles, and from north to south $2\frac{1}{4}$ miles, the surface sloping generally from south-east to north-west.

In the south-east the ground rises to a height of some 280 feet above sea level, whilst at the north-west it is as low as 25 feet or so above the same datum.

About two miles of the northern boundary of the district is formed by the River Ribble, which is tidal, and in the bed of which an outcrop of red sandstone (Triassic) is seen.

The River Darwen flows through a comparatively deep valley in the northern portion of the district, joining the Ribble on the northern boundary.

The geological surface consists almost entirely of boulder clay, beneath which lie drift sands and gravel, and under these again the Triassic sandstones.

The following adoptive Acts, Bye-laws, and Regulations are in force in the Area administered by the Urban District Council :—

Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops Order, 1885.

Infectious Diseases (Prevention) Act, 1890, except Section 14.

Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890, Parts I., III., and IV.

Private Street Works Act, 1892.

Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907, [Parts II., III., and V., and Sections 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 64, 65, 66, 67, and 68 of Part IV.

Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907, Part VIII. (Fire Brigade).

Bye-laws with respect to New Streets and Buildings, Scavenging, Nuisances, Common Lodging Houses, Houses let in lodgings, Slaughter-houses, and Public Sanitary Conveniences.

In treating the social conditions prevailing in this Urban Area, the statements available realise only a repetition of all that has been said before. The staple industry is the cotton trade. It is supplemented by two foundries, with machine shops. The farming community are mostly settled on grazing farms, producing considerable quantities of milk, which is kitted to Preston and distributed locally ; butter is also made, and, in a few instances, cheese is produced. During the period of the war, some of the grass land was broken up to enable cereals and potatoes to be grown. The population,

on the average, is undersized, and the physical development not very good. Much of this is probably due to whole-life employment in the cotton mills. I cannot help associating as one of the causes of the lack of physical importance in the Lancashire cotton operatives the general early decay of the teeth, which induces dyspepsia, through unmasticated food, and following on this malnutrition ; food carried to the factory or purchased at the nearest meat-pie shop and partaken of hurriedly does not make for good assimilation. The conditions under which people now work in the cotton mills have vastly improved. The introduction of dining-halls, with good lavatory accommodation, and the provision of means of cooking food, have added much to the comfort of these workers. Other attributes are in evidence—shorter hours of work, the abolition of half-time employment, and the general uplifting of employment conditions which must, in time, manifest themselves when supplemented by the physical training of children during school-life, and afterwards if possible. Given hygienic environment, both at home, at school, and at the factory ; an ample sufficiency of good food, properly cooked and served ; education in, and attention to, personal hygiene, the physique of the population will soon be much improved. In no way do I desire to put forward that employment in our cotton mills is so much more unhealthy than other indoor occupations. At the present moment, as it is elsewhere and everywhere, the question of properly housing our population is of paramount importance. As a Local Authority, this Council is handling this matter. Our position is this. There are a number of houses which are certainly not fit to be lived in ; others badly need improvements, but are repairable. All are inhabited, but it is impossible to turn the people out, as there is not a single roof to cover them. More houses is the cry. We shall get these in a little time. Then the work of dealing with poor house property can be undertaken. As a community, we are, I say, satisfactorily situated. We have a complete sewerage and a sewage disposal scheme, and an excellent water supply.

The township is lighted by gas, and there exists on a good scale sanitary supervision. Isolation hospitals are provided. There are few poor, the amount of out-door relief issued by the Guardians of the Poor being £97 7s. 6d. in 1919. Judging by the prosperity of the workers, if thrift and economy prevail, our poor should gradually diminish to vanishing point. I am greatly in favour of the increase in Old-Age Pensions. Our old toilers should have their declining years made happy and comfortable. Medical and surgical treatment is provided at the Preston Royal Victoria Infirmary, manufacturers and others having the power to issue the necessary permits for admission.



*To the Chairman and Members of the Walton-le-Dale Urban
District Council.*

MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,

When I wrote and presented my Report to you in the year 1914, I little thought that it would be five years before I again attempted this duty, and that, in the meantime, we should have passed through a period in which was fought the greatest war the world has ever witnessed. After nearly four years' absence on active service, I felt it not a little difficult to again settle down to normal life and take up the threads of my former work. It was by means of the indulgence and courtesy of this Council which helped to make this phase of my life easy, and for this consideration I shall be ever grateful.

The Report, which I now offer for your acceptance, is a brief history of the township of Walton-le-Dale for the year 1919. In framing this statement I have, so far as I could, followed the lines indicated by the Ministry of Health. It has to be borne in mind that during the war years 1915-16-17-18, the Annual Reports furnished were in character a statistical record of the district ; in fact, all efforts in the direction of sanitary development were suspended with the exception of absolutely necessary details to enable the population to live in moderate comfort and safety, together with the care of those stricken by infectious disease. To-day we appear to live in a new world. The massive tumult of the war has so shaken everything that our position as a nation and community has entirely altered—new ideas, new methods, new demands, new requirements envelope us. A fresh era is in front, and we have got to live up to it. The lessons of the war, although acquired at a stupendous cost in life and money, will yield, I trust, many advantages, inspiring a national effort, directed to the advancement and general well-being of our people.

I have here noted several headings embraced in this Report which it is well should be stated as a short summary of the points I will afterwards deal with :—

(a) Birth-rate corresponding to 15·4 per 1,000 of the estimated population, an increase of 1·4 on last year's rate, but lower than any previously recorded, excepting the rates for 1918 and 1917.

(b) Corrected death-rate of 12·7 per 1,000 of the estimated civilian population, a decline of 3·9 on the year 1918 and 1·2 below the average of the preceding 10 years.

(c) Epidemic death-rate 0·68, 0·59 above last year's rate, but 0·24 below the 10 years' average.

(d) Infantile mortality rate corresponding to 85 per 1,000 registered births, slightly higher than last year, but below the average.

(e) Housing and town planning. This important matter has been taken up by the Council.

(f) Sanitary advancement which should receive attention. Continuance of conversions of bog closets to water-carriage. The general improvement and repair of houses. Abolition of slaughter-houses.

WATER SUPPLY.

There are three sources of supply :—(1) The Brindle Well with adits ; (2) The School Lane Pumping Station ; (3) Water from the Thirlmere-Manchester Aqueduct.

The quantity of water obtained from these three sources and delivered to the water mains during the year is as follows :—

Brindle	18,759,000	gallons.
School Lane	58,275,000	"
Thirlmere-Manchester	21,998,000	"

Total	99,032,000	"
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This equals a distribution of 20·8 gallons per day per head of the population.

These figures are based on an estimated population of 13,000.

As regards the completion of the work at School Lane, there still remains to be done :—

Water softening plant. Building extension over No. 2 borehole pump—lime, soda, and fuel stores. This work was the subject of the enquiry held on the 26th November, 1919, by H. E. Byrne, Esq., M.Inst. C.E., when power to borrow £1,000 was asked for. Since then, sanction to proceed has been given.

The hardness of the pumped water at Brindle is 30°, and at School Lane 30°. The latter being reduced 10° and 16° of hardness, excepting when the softening process has been impossible through the lack of the necessary re-agents. Manchester water is exceedingly soft. The township is in possession of an undoubtedly pure water supply.

Regarding the supply of water available to outlying houses and farms, five analyses have been made ; in four of these instances the report was good and one doubtful.

The total number of inhabited houses in the area is 2,807. I here give the Ward distribution :—

WARD DISTRIBUTION OF HOUSES.

	Survey of 1919.	Houses Closed and Demolished	Total.	Houses in course of Erection.
St. Leonard's Ward ...	682	...	682	...
Lostock Hall, West Ward ...	787	1	786	...
Bamber Bridge, East Ward ...	780	...	780	...
All Saints' Ward ...	559	...	559	3
Total ...	2808	1	2807	3

The following are the particulars of the houses, &c., supplied with water in the township of Walton-le-Dale, viz.:—

On Rateable Value—

Houses	...	...	...	...	2612
Farms	...	...	...	...	35
Clubs	...	...	...	...	4
Other Properties, such as Workshops, Churches, Slaughter-houses, Drill Hall, Hospitals, &c.					16
					— 2667

Supplied by Meter—

Farms	...	...	...	...	48
Schools	...	...	...	...	11
Public Houses	...	...	...	...	27
Slaughter-houses	...	...	...	...	3
Mills, Workshops, Private Houses, &c.					86
					— 175

Total property in the township supplied with	—
water	2842

There are 60 horses at 8s. each, and 110 cows at 3s. each per annum now charged and paid for on the Water Rate Book.

The Council also supplies water by meter outside the district to the townships of Brindle and Cuerden.

SCAVENGING.

At the present time the Council has undertaken the duty of scavenging the township. This is without doubt the most satisfactory solution to a very important question. The practice of letting this work of cleansing to farmers and others made for lack of efficiency. It was found that certain areas, under the control of a hardworking contractor, had good, regular, and prompt attention, with the best results; in other districts irregular and spasmodic performance of duties culminated in many complaints concerning the accumulation of refuse, &c. During the war period it was impossible

through lack of labour, to give the necessary and needed attention, and this has called for a considerable amount of cleaning and clearing up ; now the situation is much more satisfactory.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

I estimate that at the close of 1919 the closet accommodation of the township was made up as follows :—Privies, 259 ; pails, 961 ; slop-water conveniences, 327 ; fresh-water closets, 1,270. It is very desirable that every single bog receptacle should be abolished, and to this end it is the intention of the Council to apply to borrow further funds to enable the conversion of these bogs to water-carriage to proceed. Some 16 privies and six pails became w.c.s during 1919. This improvement will be pushed forward during the coming year. Two tables are here introduced, which deal with the conversions carried out in specified years. The second table deals with 1918-19 :—

Conversions to Fresh-water Closets during recent years, under Section 39 Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907.

	1912.	1913.	1914.	1915.	1916.	Total.
Privies or bogs to w.c.s	73	80	80	28	7	268
Excreta pails to w.c.s	2	38	22	61	...	123
Slop-water closets to w.c.s ... ..	...	...	2	16	...	18
	75	118	104	105	7	409

	1918.	Converted during 1919.	Houses demolished	Converted to Pails.	Total Year ending 1919.
Privies or bogs	277	—16	...	—2	259
Excreta pails	966	—6	—1	+2	961
Slop-water closets ...	327	...	...	...	327
Fresh-water closets ...	1248	+22	...	...	1270

The figures here given are supplied to me as representing the amount of cleansing carried out. As no destructor is available, the contents of the ashpits and ashpails are disposed of at a "Tip." This is undoubtedly the most satisfactory method of meeting present requirements in this direction :—

No. of privies cleansed	...	205
No. of excreta pails cleansed..		49,972
No. of ashpails cleansed	...	83,772
No. of ashpits cleansed	...	2,094

It may be well to point out that it is very desirable that, where possible, ashpits should be abolished and ashpails adopted. The frequent and regular removal of house rubbish, &c., is very necessary as an adjunct to cleanly back yards and premises. During 1919, some 69 ashpails were taken into use. There are considerably more than half the houses in the township now using ashpails. A simple tabular statement illustrates the abolition of ashpits, together with the introduction of pails, carried over a series of years :—

1912.	1913.	1914.	1915.	1916.	1919.	TOTAL.
75	118	126	80	7	24	430

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE DISTRICT.

I can safely say I am thoroughly conversant with the district. Now that we have come back to a time of peace, one realizes that the re-opening of questions of sanitary improvements is a necessity. There are in this sanitary area a good many defects to be remedied, such as the flagging of cobble-paved yards, road, and footpath improvement in side streets, and paving of back passages. As I pointed out some years since, the condition of our side streets is little short of scandalous; in the future lies the provision of a destructor. In placing these few outstanding matters before the Council for their close attention, I have

before me the economic conditions under which we at present live. The prices of every commodity and the shortage of labour largely deter public bodies from handling their responsibilities ; yet it is impossible to sit down and wait for years, and at the present moment there does not appear to be much indication of the altering of circumstances. May I once again appeal to those who are in charge of cottage houses to use every endeavour to maintain a high standard of cleanliness in their respective homes. The ventilation of the home is of great importance, yet it is often found that windows will not open. The burning of house rubbish, scraps of unsuitable food, &c., may be met by the use of the kitchen fire. This is an old recommendation of mine, and I again advance it, as its usefulness is undoubted. Clean and sweet back yards are obtainable with a little trouble, and baths, where these exist, should be taken into reasonable use for their primary purpose, not used (as is sometimes the case) as a store for rubbish.

During the year 1918, the County Council, through its Public Health and Housing Committee, made a sanitary inspection of Walton-le-Dale. The report of those of the County Sanitary staff who made the survey is an exhaustive document, which embraces evidence of a close scrutiny of the township's defects. This report has been taken, item by item, and dealt with by the Inspector of Nuisances and myself, and reports furnished by us to the Council from time to time. Many improvements have been effected and promises obtained towards early rectifications.

LODGING-HOUSES.

There are no lodging-houses within the area administered by the Council.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

There is a tripe preparing works. Although I should be glad to see this building closed, yet, on the occasion of my visits and those of the Inspector of Nuisances, it would be difficult to condemn the place, as it is kept orderly and clean. I am told the present tenant is to transfer the business to Preston—I hope so.

SCHOOLS.

All the Public Elementary Schools in the township have received due attention. Some of these structures are comparatively new, and are, therefore, up to date and quite satisfactory, whilst others are much older. In one instance (St. Saviour's, Bamber Bridge) a new school would be a great acquisition. The present school is old and out of date. We have now arrived at a time when we cannot allow our children to sit for hours each day in a badly ventilated school ill-adapted for the purpose of education. The water supply in every case is quite satisfactory, and the office accommodation has, in some instances, been rebuilt. If our climate was only more genial, advantage would be taken of this in the direction of educating children in the open air, or protected by shelters. In many Counties open-air teaching has been greatly developed, and one is quite accustomed to see, in suitable weather, classes of children being taught in the open. So long as the children can keep comfortably warm, the principle is good, and sound physical training must ere long form a permanent portion of a child's education towards healthy development; it must be so taught that it absorbs the whole attention of the child, and so that the greatest good can be obtained from each exercise. As children are now instructed, so far as I can judge, little or no advantage accrues.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND MILKSHOPS.

There are now registered 46 cowkeepers. Within the year, three farmers ceased to keep milking beasts. In all 23 inspections have been made. There are some most excellent shippens; but against this there are others which require extensive renovations, if not demolishing, so that new structures, suitable to modern requirements, may replace them. There is now a tendency to the view on the part of those who keep dairy cattle that a large well-lighted and ventilated shippen is the best and safest means of housing milking cows. The old theory was that, except you kept the

cow warm—and this involved a crowded low-roofed shippon, always ill-lighted, with a foul atmosphere—the quantity of milk would be reduced. It is good to note that hygienic housing of our milking stock is now becoming accepted. The milk supply is from local farmers, and I have no doubt as to the good quality of the same.

BAKEHOUSES.

The number of bakehouses in Walton-le-Dale is 18. These are inspected with regularity. Lime washing and general cleanliness are insisted on, so as to conform with the Regulations. One bakehouse was closed, and a new structure was built to replace an old one. Notices to rectify defects were immediately complied with.

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES.

These were not used during the year, as all meat being rationed and controlled, butchers were supplied with killed meat. When normal conditions again prevail, I would very much like to see a central abattoir and lairage for the area. Our present type of slaughter-house with one exception is not by any means good.

The Tuberculosis (Animals) Order, 1913, is still “suspended,” consequently no notices were received.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

These have had visits of inspection; in fact, constant supervision is kept over them. No intimations as to required sanitary improvements have been put in by H.M. Inspectors of Factories, nor have your own Officers had cause to complain. Provision in all instances is made for escape in case of fire, and the general sanitary arrangements may be taken as satisfactory.

HOUSING AND TOWN PLANNING.

The provision of houses to meet the pressing requirements of the Urban District has been a matter of the greatest urgency.

The Council has given it unremitting attention, and with all this earnestness and desire to proceed, a great deal of time has been absorbed. Instructions were received from the Ministry of Health that by the 31st. October a complete as possible house survey of the district should be furnished to the Housing Commissioner for this area. This was carried out. It was then found that our requirements amounted to some 435 houses. This number was made up as follows:— For those living away, overcrowding, to replace houses now inhabited which are unfit for human habitation, and those houses which are definitely below a reasonable standard. Although our position may be no worse than that of others, yet the housing problem stands out acutely. The Council, as soon as possible, determined to build houses on three sites, so that the convenience and requirements of the local area could be met.

The Walton-le-Dale Urban District Council is now contemplating the erection of 180 houses. There are three schemes of sixty houses each, namely—(1) at Lostock Hall, (2) at Higher Walton, and (3) at Bamber Bridge.

The types of houses proposed to be erected are as follow:—

10 per cent. Type B 4—

Each containing parlour, living room, and four bedrooms.

10 per cent. Type A—

Each containing living room and three bedrooms.

80 per cent. Type B 3—

Each containing parlour, living room, and three bedrooms.

As the land has been acquired for the site of the Lostock Hall group, this work can be started at once. Efforts are being made to obtain a site off Station Road, Bamber Bridge, and also on Higher Walton Road, for Walton-le-Dale, but I understand no definite arrangements have yet been come to.

Apart from the enormous cost of building these houses, the outstanding difficulty is to obtain Contractors to undertake the work ; in fact, these obligations will not now be accepted. It only remains for the Council to pay for the work, allowing a percentage to the builder who accepts it. The position is an exceedingly difficult one, but houses are urgently required, so houses must be forthcoming. The present rents paid for cottages in Walton-le-Dale vary from 3s. for living room, scullery, and one bedroom (very few of these) ; to parloured houses with kitchen, scullery, and four bedrooms at 8s. 6d. per week. A second survey of the township is being carried out by Mr. Baron, this will place me in the position of knowing everything about every existing house. As a rule, the cottage property is fairly good, some is excellent. There are no areas that could be called unhealthy. Briefly our position is this : There is an estimated population of 13,108, housed in 2,807 houses. There are 178 instances of two families living in cottages originally intended for one family, this is due to shortage of houses. Where defects exist, these are usually due to dampness, caused by defective roofs or wall soakage, defective closet accommodation, badly constructed back yards, and objectionable refuse receptacles. As a rule, no difficulties arise in having defects remedied Existing Bye-laws are, I consider, sufficient, and meet our requirements.

I estimate that there are at present some 55 houses unfit for human habitation ; 102 dwellings are below a reasonable standard. I have had no complaint from householders as to the condition of their houses. One house was demolished. There is one Inspector of Nuisances who undertakes, along with the Medical Officer of Health, all the duties in connection with housing, together with other sanitary work ; in other words, there are two Officials connected with the Health Department of the township—(1) the Medical Officer of Health and (2) the Inspector of Nuisances.

NOTIFICATION OF BIRTHS ACT.

This act appears now to be working smoothly. The necessary notifications come to hand with considerable regularity. Co-operation between the Registrar of Births and the Sanitary Authority is very necessary to ensure a complete list of all the occurring births. It is very wonderful that, after this Act has been in operation since 1907, a considerable number of people are still ignorant of the obligations attaching to them with respect to the notification of births. The Lancashire County Council undertake the visiting of newly born infants and expectant mothers, and on their recommendations milk is supplied by this Council whenever necessary to both mothers and infants, in accordance with the Milk (Mothers and Children) Order, 1918. This work is carried out in a most excellent way by the Health Visitors of the Administrative County.

CHILD WELFARE.

The after-care of infants is also dealt with through the Medical Officer of Health for the County. A Centre has been established at Bamber Bridge.

This Centre was held originally at the Council Offices, and then was removed to the St. Saviour's Institute, Station Road ; after some little time these premises had to be vacated. After an interval of a few weeks, the Centre was re-opened at the Conservative Club, Cranborne Road.

The Centre is open each Thursday afternoon from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. One of the Assistant County Medical Officers (Dr. Tomb) and one of the County Nurses is in attendance at the Centre each week. The mothers attending the Centre are interviewed by the Medical Officer and given advice with regard to their children. The mothers are also addressed collectively by the Nurse or Medical Officer whenever it is possible, on such subjects as personal hygiene, minor ailments, feeding, and teething difficulties, &c.

A Voluntary Committee, composed of local ladies, also attends the Centre each week, and gives very valuable assistance to the Medical Officer and Nurse. The duties they

undertake include the making of tea for the mothers, cutting out patterns of infant clothing, marking the attendance registers, and entering up the weight cards, &c.

The following articles are sold at the Centre to the mothers :—

Glaxo.

Virol.

Cod Liver Oil and Malt.

Cow and Gate.

Sugar.

Feeders, Teats, and Valves.

These articles are sold to the mothers at cost price. If, however, any individual mother is able to show that her family circumstances warrant such a procedure, the foods are supplied to her, either free of charge or at such a nominal sum as she is able to pay. The sales of these commodities are also undertaken by the Voluntary Committee, in order to leave the Nurse free for more professional duties.

Arrangements have also been made whereby the Lancashire County Council provide fresh milk free of charge, or at a modified cost in necessitous cases. At the present time, however, no such cases in this area have been reported to the County Medical Officer of Health.

For the purposes of the Notification of Births Acts each of the County Nurses has a certain area allotted to her. The Local Medical Officers of Health notify each week all births which have occurred in their areas to the County Medical Officer of Health. These births are summarised according to the areas allotted, and are transmitted each Wednesday evening to the Nurses in charge. The Nurse then visits all babies and gives the mother advice, where necessary, on such matters as feeding, infant clothing, care of the skin, &c. At the present time, however, it is impossible for the County Medical Officer of Health to allot a Nurse purely to Walton-le-Dale, as difficulties have arisen owing to shortage of staff, due to personal illness. In order that the Child Welfare

Centre at Bamber Bridge may be carried on as efficiently as possible, another of the County Nurses leaves her own allotted area each Thursday to attend at Bamber Bridge, and she has, of course, little or no opportunity of visiting the homes of all the babies which have been born recently in the area.

Expectant mothers are cordially invited to attend at the Centre, and such mothers can consult the Medical Officer at any session with regard to their own personal health. They are also, of course, encouraged to listen to the lectures and advice given to the other mothers regarding their babies.

There are now between 50 and 60 children on the books of the Bamber Bridge Child Welfare Centre, and the following is a typical Monthly Return rendered by the Nurse in charge:—

No. of times the Centre was open during month ... 4

No. of individual children attending :—

Under 1 year of age ... 35

From 1—2 years of age ... 10

Over 2 years of age ... 7

No. of attendances by children :—

Under 1 year of age ... 70

From 1—2 years of age ... 18

Over 2 years of age ... 11

No. of attendances by expectant mothers :—

No. of individual expectant mothers attending 2

No. of actual attendances ... 5

No. of attendances by other women :—

No. of individual women attending ... 5

No. of actual attendances ... 5

SALE OF FOODS AND DRUGS ACT.

Here, again, the County Authorities assist. The Sale of Foods and Drugs Act is carried out by Inspectors chosen from the Lancashire County Police Force. The table inserted gives detailed particulars. Two prosecutions were instituted (milk samples), a fine amounting to £6 was imposed, the other case was withdrawn.

Date taken.	Description of Food and Drug.	Number taken.
1919. August 11th	Milk (pints)	11
Do.	Coffee (2 ozs.)	1
Do.	Pepper (2 ozs.)	1
Do.	Ground Ginger (2 ozs.)	1
Do.	Cocoa (packet)	1
Do.	Rice ($\frac{1}{2}$ -lb.)	1
Do.	Oatmeal (1 lb.)	1
November 17th	Milk (pints)	9

HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION.

The Council is in exactly the same position with regard to Hospital accommodation as has been the case for many years past. There are 8 beds for small-pox cases at the Bradkirk Hospital, and 20 beds for other infectious diseases at the Back Lane Isolation Hospital. The confidence now placed in Hospital treatment is demonstrated by the fact that practically all the cases of these diseases notified go into this Institution. When the Hospital was first completed there was great difficulty to persuade parents to allow their children to be removed from their homes for treatment in Hospital.

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The table here given shows the number of notified cases under the Notification of Infectious Diseases Act and the Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations during the years 1919 to 1911, inclusive. It will be noted that there is a

marked falling off in the total number of cases for 1919, as compared with any of the years cited, of the 44 cases made up of 21 Diphtheria, 20 Scarlet Fever, and 3 Enteric Fever, 43 received treatment in the Isolation Hospital. There were 3 deaths in this Institution, 2 due to Diphtheria, and 1 to Scarlet Fever.

NOTIFICATIONS RECEIVED.	1919	1918	1917	1916	1915	1914	1913	1912	1911
Scarlet Fever	20	4	16	50	73	102	69	144	64
Diphtheria	21	6	16	4	18	13	21	21	34
Typhoid Fever	3	2	1	8	4	14	5	3	13
Erysipelas	7	1	4	5	3	12	10	10	6
Puerperal Fever .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	...
Poliomyelitis	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...
Encephalitis Lethargica..	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pneumonia	9	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Malaria	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cerebro Spinal Fever ...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
Ophthalmia Neonatorum.	...	1	1	...	2	...	...	...	...
Pulmonary Tuberculosis..	17	24	11	14	18	20	15	23	...
Other forms of Tuber- culosis	8	5	2	6	2	2	3	...	...
Measles	6	84	151	36	...	...	...	...	...
TOTAL	94	127	202	123	121	163	124	205	117

After a fair trial, extending over four years, the Ministry of Health, by an Order dated 27th November, 1919, decided to abolish the formal notification of Measles and German Measles, as from the 31st December. Confusion was often caused by the fact that only the first case of measles in a household had to be notified by the medical attendant, while subsequent cases are left to be enumerated by the parents or Health Visitor. If a doctor was not called in to the early cases of an outbreak, as the disease spreads with great rapidity in the infant departments of schools, an epidemic envelopment of a district was accomplished practically before the Health Authorities had time to take any action. Such an occurrence deprived notification of much of its value. Good does certainly accrue through the fact that all the notified cases were practically visited, and this energy on the part of officials impressed parents and helped to stay the very wrong impression that measles is a trivial disease. The Ministry of Health made it perfectly clear that they desired to impress on Local Authorities that the withdrawal of notification in the case of measles in no way indicated that preventive measures to stay and combat this disease should be relaxed. On the contrary, Local Authorities are left a free hand to exercise their powers and develop their organisation for preventing the spread and the after effects of measles. Other Orders rescinded during the year were Public Health (Cerebro-Spinal Fever) Regulations, 1919, rescinding Public Health (Cerebro-Spinal Fever) Regulations, 1918.

Public Health (Influenza) Regulations, No. 1.

Public Health (Influenza) Regulations, No. 2.

The table inserted sets forth the monthly incidence of certain infectious diseases.

	Scarlet Fever.		Enteric.		Diphtheria.		Erysipelas.	
Jan. ...	—	...	—	...	—	...	—	...
Feb. ...	2	...	—	...	1	...	—	...
Mar. ...	—	...	—	...	—	...	1	...
April ...	1	...	—	...	—	...	—	...
May ...	—	...	1	...	7	...	—	...
June ...	—	...	1	...	2	...	1	...
July ...	1	...	—	...	2	...	—	...
Aug. ...	—	...	—	...	1	...	—	...
Sept. ...	—	...	—	...	2	...	—	...
Oct. ...	5	...	—	...	—	...	—	...
Nov. ...	5	...	1	...	5	...	1	...
Dec. ...	6	...	—	...	1	...	4	...
Total ...	20	...	3	...	21	...	7	...

The ages at which typhoid fever, diphtheria, and scarlet fever occurred are demonstrated by the table below, together with the numbers of cases of the specified ailments in evidence in the years 1919–1915. These figures refer to cases treated in Hospital—

	Under 1 Year.	1 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 45.	45 and under 65.	Total. 1919.	1918.	1917.	1916.	1915.
Typhoid Fever	2	1	...	3	2	1	8	4
Diphtheria	5	14	1	...	...	20	6	13	4	17
Scarlet Fever	2	18	...	...	...	20	1	14	43	65
	...	7	32	3	1	...	43	9	28	55	86

MALARIA.

I have had several notices of cases of malaria, some through the Pensions Board, others notified by medical practitioners. I have in all cases visited these men, and advised as to the care to be taken. All instances of the disease were contracted abroad.

THE PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF PULMONARY AND
NON-PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS.

I had 17 cases of pulmonary, and 8 of non-pulmonary tuberculosis notified to me. In addition, 12 pulmonary cases and 1 non-pulmonary case were reported on Form C, *i.e.*, admissions to Institutions, and 13 pulmonary cases on Form D, *viz.*, discharges from Institutions. The 17 pulmonary and the 8 non-pulmonary are new cases. In every instance, when sanatorium treatment is available and the case suitable, the sufferer is removed as soon as possible. Personally, I try to visit and record the history of each case brought to notice. Printed instructions, spitting cups, and disinfectants are supplied. Each case is visited by one of the Medical Tuberculosis staff of the County, and a Health Visitor is detailed to look after the case. On removal for sanatorium treatment, thorough disinfection is carried out, and care taken that all washable bedding is boiled. The bedroom (if possible) is left vacant for some time. On the return of the patient, I am notified, and the case is visited. The County Tuberculosis Officer also takes the patient under his care. Dispensary treatment is given, and extra nourishment in cases where this is necessary. Open-air treatment, by means of chalets, is adopted in instances where accommodation can be found for the hut. I look back on all our efforts to deal with tuberculosis with disappointment, for our vast expenditure of money and time has yielded little or no result in staying the ravages of Tuberculosis. I believe we have gained experience, and now we have begun the fight again on better lines. We are caring for our infants; we are protecting their lives so as to raise a strong and healthy generation. We

recognise that a consumptive cannot go out in the world and compete for his living, and he is a danger to the community in every possible instance. Therefore, he must be segregated and colonised; his power to work used towards his own independence. But we have got to recognise that the consumptive must be taken away from the outer world, where he is a danger, and placed in an environment which will possibly cure or stay the disease and preserve his independence. There he must stay. I believe, with complete national segregation of the pulmonary consumptive population, added to active child welfare development, 50 years from now will demonstrate that something has been done to eradicate tuberculosis.

I have to thank the Council for the opportunity they gave me of attending the Seventh Annual Conference of the National Association for the Prevention of Tuberculosis, which was held in London on the 16th, 17th, and 18th of October, 1919. It was exceedingly interesting to listen to the various opinions expressed on this stupendous subject.

INFLUENZA.

During the year the Ministry of Health issued several Memoranda on the Prevention of Influenza, and in December, 1919, the Ministry intimated to all Medical Officers of Health that a supply of anti-influenza vaccine would be available in the first week of January, 1920. This vaccine is issued only to Medical Officers of Health, on application to the Government Lymph Establishment, Colindale Avenue, The Hyde, N.W. 9. The medical practitioners practising in the Urban District were notified that this vaccine could be supplied gratuitously on application to me.

TETANUS.

The Ministry of Health also issued a Memorandum (October, 1919) on the Prophylactic use of Tetanus Antitoxin, a supply of which was available to every medical practitioner on application to the County Public Health Department, County Offices, Preston.

RABIES.

In April, the Ministry issued a Memorandum on the procedure recommended to be followed in the event of persons being bitten by dogs suspected or ascertained to be rabid, Arrangements had been made with certain Specialists for the immediate treatment of suspected cases. The Local Medical Officer of Health is required to communicate the circumstances to the Ministry, and if it is ascertained that anti-rabic treatment is essential, and the consent of the patient has been obtained, the Medical Officer of Health should arrange for direct treatment at one of a number of Centres; the nearest to this district being at Manchester—Dr. W. J. Reid, 10, St. John Street, Manchester.

VENEREAL DISEASES.

The Lancashire County Council, through the Public Health Department, have put into operation a comprehensive scheme for the diagnosis and treatment of venereal diseases, and has made the following arrangements:—

- (1) For enabling any medical practitioner practising in the area of the County Council to obtain, at the cost of the County Council, a scientific report on any material which the medical practitioner may submit from a patient suspected to be suffering from venereal disease.
- (2) For the treatment at and in Hospitals or other Institutions of persons suffering from venereal disease.
- (3) For supplying medical practitioners with salvarsan or its approved substitutes, for the treatment and prevention of venereal diseases.

The facilities mentioned, both for diagnosis and treatment, are available to registered medical practitioners without charge to them or to their patients.

Medical practitioners can obtain from the County Public Health Department, gratuitously, outfits for collecting material for examination from persons suspected to be suffering from venereal disease, and the examination will be carried

out, free of charge, at the Laboratories of the Manchester or Liverpool Universities.

Salvarsan substitutes are also supplied by the County Council to medical practitioners who possess the required qualifications for the administration of these drugs.

Treatment.—Arrangements have also been made by the County Council with 25 Public Institutions for the treatment of patients suffering from these diseases. The most convenient Institutions to this district are as under.

TREATMENT CENTRE.	Days and Hours of Out-Patient Clinic.
	<div>MALES.</div> <div>FEMALES.</div>
Preston Royal Infirmary, Deepdale Road	<div>Wednesday, 4-30—7 p.m. Friday, 4-30—7 p.m.</div> <div>Tuesday, 4-30—7 p.m.</div>
Blackburn and East Lancashire Royal Infirmary	<div>Monday, 11 a.m. Wednesday, 4 p.m.</div> <div>Tuesday, 11 a.m. and 4 p.m.</div>
Wigan Royal Albert Edward Infirmary, Wigan Lane	<div>Tuesday, 4 p.m. Friday, 10 a.m.</div> <div>Tuesday, 5 p.m. Friday, 10 a.m.</div>
Bolton, Public Health Department Clinic, Howell Croft North	<div>Tuesday, 7 p.m. Monday, 7 p.m. Wednesday, 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.</div> <div>Thursday, 7 p.m. Saturday, 10 a.m.</div>
Burnley Victoria Hospital ...	<div>Monday, 10—11 a.m.; 6—7 p.m.</div> <div>Friday, 10—11 a.m.; 6—7 p.m.</div>

Arrangements have also been made with Hospitals at Liverpool, Manchester, Salford, and other places.

The following Acts of Parliament, Memoranda, and Circulars relating to Public Health were issued during the year 1919 :—

The Ministry of Health Act, 1919.

The Housing Town Planning, &c., Act, 1919.

The Housing (Additional Powers) Act, 1919.

The Housing Acts (Appeal Procedure) Regulations, 1919.

The Housing Acts (Forms of Orders and Notices) Orders, 1919.

The Housing (Assisted Scheme) Regulations, 1919.

The Housing Trust (Financial Trust) Regulations, 1919.

The Ministry of Health (Temporary Relaxation By-laws) Regulations.

Several General Housing Memoranda.

The Public Health (Cerebro-Spinal Fever) Regulations, 1919, rescinding Cerebro-Spinal Fever Regulations, 1918, and arranging for treatment of patients, provision of serum and vaccine.

Advice to the Public on Precautions to be taken against Influenza.

Memo. on Prevention of Influenza.

General Order—Rescission of Public Health (Influenza) Regulations, 1918.

Public Health (Pneumonia, Malaria, Dysentery, &c.) Regulations, 1919. Circular enclosing General Order with object of securing better control over and means of treatment of certain epidemic diseases.

Prevention of Epidemic, Endemic, or Infectious Diseases relating to (Pneumonia, Malaria, Dysentery, &c.) Regulations, 1919.

Memo. on Pneumonia.

Suggestions for the Care of Malaria patients.

Circular and Memo. on Measures for the Prevention of Lousiness and Itch.

Rabies.—Memo. on the procedure recommended to be followed in the event of Persons being Bitten by Dogs suspected or ascertained to be rabid.

Memo. on the Prophylactic Use of Tetanus Antitoxin.

The Public Health (Measles and German Measles) Regulations, 1915. Rescission Order, 1919.

Circular on Measles and German Measles.

The Public Health (Acute Encephalitis Lethargica and Acute Polio-Encephalitis) Regulations, 1919.

Memo. on above Extending Period for Notification of these Diseases.

Circular on Prevention of Influenza (20th December, 1919).

Memo. on Prevention of Influenza (December, 1919).

Influenza Vaccine.—Instructions to Medical Officers of Health (December, 1919).

VITAL STATISTICS.

AREA.—The area of the Walton-le-Dale Urban District comprises 4,658 statute acres.

POPULATION.—The population, supplied by the Registrar-General for the purposes of this Report, are as under :—

For calculating the birth-rate, 12,133.

For calculating the death-rate, 11,647.

Last year these figures were, respectively, 11,907 and 10,627. The population of the Urban District at the 1911 Census was 12,350.

The "death-rate population" excludes all non-civilian males, whether serving at home or abroad. This is necessary for the purposes of local death-rates, because it has proved impossible to transfer the deaths of non-civilians to their areas of residence, or to deal in any other satisfactory manner with the local mortality of this element in the population. These estimates are based mainly upon the rationing returns kindly placed at the Registrar-General's disposal by the Ministry of Food.

The "birth-rate (and marriage-rate) population," on the other hand, is intended to include all the elements of the population contributing to the birth and marriage rates. It consists, therefore, of the death-rate, or civilian population, plus all non-civilians enlisted from this country, whether serving at home or abroad. This non-civilian element has been distributed over all the districts in the country in proportion to their estimated civilian population.

The Registrar-General states that the classification of some deaths is modified in the light of fuller information obtained from the certifying practitioner in response to special inquiries.

BIRTHS AND BIRTH-RATE.—The total number of births reported by the Registrar-General as belonging to this Urban District during the year 1919 was 187—males 93, females 94. Illegitimate births numbered 12. Last year the total births amounted to 167—males 84, females 83.

The birth-rate for the Urban District, calculated on the estimated civilian population above referred to, viz., 12,133, corresponded to 15·4 per 1,000, against 14·0 last year; 14·4 in 1917; and an average of 20·0 for the 10 years 1909-18. Excepting the years 1918 and 1917, the rate for the year under report is below any previously recorded.

The provisional birth-rate for England and Wales for 1919 was 18·5 per 1,000 of the estimated population.

DEATHS AND DEATH-RATES.—The net deaths actually belonging to Walton-le-Dale for the year 1919 were 148—males 69, females 79. This total includes 19 deaths known as “inward transfers,” *i.e.*, of persons belonging to Walton-le-Dale who die outside the Urban District. In 1918 the corrected number of deaths was 177.

The tabulated statement given below, analysing the causes of death and distinguishing males and females, is supplied by the Registrar-General:—

Causes of Death (Civilians only).	Males.	Females.
All Causes	69	79
Scarlet Fever ... ..	...	1
Diphtheria and Croup	3	1
Influenza	4	6
Erysipelas	1	...
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	2	8
Tuberculous Meningitis	2	...
Other Tuberculous Diseases ... ..	...	2
Cancer, Malignant Disease	4	7
Rheumatic Fever	1	1
Organic Heart Disease	6	9
Bronchitis	4	6
Pneumonia (all forms)	3	5
Other Respiratory Diseases	4	...
Diarrhœa, &c. (under 2 years)	1	2
Nephritis and Bright's Disease	1	3
Parturition, apart from ... ..	...	1
Puerperal Fever ... ..	...	...
Congenital Debility, &c.	2	5
Violence, apart from Suicide	3	1
Suicide ... ..	...	1
Other Defined Diseases	26	19
Causes Ill-defined or Unknown	2	1

Causes of Death (Civilians only).	Males.	Females.
Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age	7	9
Total—Illegitimate ... ..	...	3
Total Births	93	94
Legitimate	91	84
Illegitimate	2	10
Population—For Birth-rate ...	12133	
For Death-rate ...	11647	

The death-rate of the Urban District for the year under report, calculated on the estimated civilian population previously referred to, viz., 11,647, was equal to 12·7 per 1,000, as compared with a rate of 16·6 last year ; 15·2 in 1917 ; and an average of 13·9 for the decennial period 1909-18. With three exceptions, the rate for the year under review is below any previously recorded.

The provisional death-rate for the whole of England and Wales in 1919 was 13·8 per 1,000 of the estimated population.

EPIDEMIC DEATH-RATE.—To the diseases usually classified under this heading, 8 deaths were ascribed, viz., scarlet fever 1, diphtheria and croup 4, and diarrhoea 3.

The epidemic death-rate, calculated per 1,000 of the estimated population, was 0·68, against a rate of 0·09 last year, 0·64 in 1917, and an average of 0·92 for the 10 years 1909-18.

PHTHISIS (PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS).—Ten deaths were registered as due to pulmonary tuberculosis—males 2, females 8, equal to a rate of 0·85 per 1,000. Last year 15 deaths were ascribed to this disease, or a rate of 1·41 per 1,000. The average rate for the last 10 years was 0·90.

BRONCHITIS AND PNEUMONIA.—Bronchitis gave rise to 10 fatalities and pneumonia 8, against 18 and 14 in the previous 12 months.

INFLUENZA contributed 10 deaths, as compared with 33 in the year 1918.

INFANT MORTALITY.—The number of infant deaths under the age of 1 year, belonging to the Urban District of Walton-le-Dale, was 16—males 7, females 9, as compared with 13 last year.

The infant death-rate, calculated per 1,000 registered births, was 85, against 77 in 1918, 91 in 1917, 110 in 1916, 143 in 1915, and an average of 110 for the 10 years 1909-18.

The following table analyses the causes of infant deaths, at stated age periods:—

Infant Mortality during the Year 1919. Nett Deaths from causes stated under One Year of Age.

CAUSE OF DEATH.	Total Deaths under One Year.									
	Under 1 Week.	1-2 Weeks.	2-3 Weeks.	3-4 Weeks.	Total under 4 weeks.	4 Weeks-3 Months.	3-6 Months.	6-9 Months.	9-12 Months.	16 ...
All causes { Certified ... Uncertified ...	3	2	1	1	7	4	1	2	2	16
Influenza	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1
Diarrhoea and Enteritis ..	..	..	..	..	..	3	..	..	..	3
Convulsions	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1
Bronchitis	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1
Pneumonia (all form-)	..	..	1	..	1	1	..	..	..	1
Suffocation	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1
Congenital Malformations	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Premature Birth	1	2	..	1	1	..	1	..	..	1
Atrophy, Debility, and Marasmus	2	..	..	1	5	..	..	..	..	6
	3	2	1	1	7	4	1	2	2	16

BIRTH AND DEATH-RATES.—The tabulated statement below compares the birth and death-rates of the Urban District for 1919 with those for the year 1918 and the mean of the 10 years 1909-18, showing the respective increases or decreases :—

	Per 1,000 of Population.				
	Birth rate.	Death rate.	Epi- demic Death rate.	Phthisis Death rate.	Rate of Deaths under 1 Year to 1,000 Births.
1919.....	15·4	12·7	0·68	0·85	85
1918.....	14·0	16·6	0·09	1·41	77
Mean of 10 years 1909-1918	20·0	13·9	0·92	0·90	110
Increase or Decrease in 1919 on—					
Previous Year	+1·4	—3·9	+0·59	—0·56	+8
Ten Years' Average ...	—4·6	—1·2	—0·24	—0·05	—25

Appended is the Report of the Inspector of Nuisances.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

CHARLES J. TRIMBLE,

L.R.C.P.I., L.R.C.P. (Edin.), D.P.H. (Edin.).

Broad Oak,

Penwortham, Preston,

April, 1920.

URBAN DISTRICT OF WALTON-LE-DALE.

Number of Cases of Infectious Diseases Notified, Removed to Hospital, &c., during the Year 1919.

	Diphtheria and Membranous Group.	Erysipelas.	Scarlet-Fever.	Enteric Fever.	Polio-myelitis.	Malaria.	Encephalitis Lethargica.	Acute Primary Pneumonia, Acute Influenzal Pneumonia.	Pulmonary Tuberculosis.	Other Forms of Tuberculosis.	Measles and German Measles.	TOTAL.
No. of Cases notified	21	7	20	3	1	1	1	9	17	8	6	94
No. removed to Hospital	20	...	20	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	43
No. of Deaths in Hospital of persons belonging to the District	2	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3

Summary of Medical Officer's Report for 1919.

URBAN DISTRICT OF WALTON-LE-DALE.—Medical Officer of Health, CHARLES J. TRIMBLE ; Salary and Bonus as M.O.H., 31/12/19, £200. Inspector of Nuisances, NICHOLAS BARON ; Salary and Bonus as Inspector, 31/12/19, £156.

Is the Medical Officer of Health or Inspector of Nuisances away on Military Service ? No.

What is the character of the Hospital Accommodation ? For Small-pox converted farm-house known as Bradkirk Hospital ; for other Infectious Diseases, Infectious Hospital, Back Lane.

Is it Joint or otherwise ? No.

Number of Beds available for your District ?—For Small-pox, 8 ; for other Infectious Diseases, 20.

How is Disinfection carried out ?—No. of Houses Disinfected ?—73. Method ?—Formalin and Sulphur Fumes. Are Houses Disinfected after (a) Phthisis ?—Yes, always ; (b) Measles ?—Where necessary. Apparatus used for Clothing, Bedding, &c. (steam or otherwise) ?—Steam. No. of Articles Disinfected ?—356. Where is apparatus situated ?—Isolation Hospital, Back Lane. If apparatus at Hospital is available, is it used for the disinfection of Clothing, Bedding, &c., of patients not removed to the Hospital ?—Yes.

Are any Diseases not specifically mentioned in the Infectious Diseases Notification Act notifiable (for instance, Whooping Cough, Diarrhoea, Chicken Pox, &c.) ? If so, what are they ?—No.

Diseases specially prevalent ?—Scarlet Fever and Diphtheria. Period ?—May and November.

No. of times School Closure adopted ?—Once. For what Disease ?—Diphtheria.

No. of Special Reports made under Art. XIX. (15 and 16) Sanitary Officers' Order, 1910 ?—Nil.

Bacteriological Examinations. Specimens examined : Swabs 4.

Diphtheria Anti-toxin Order, 1910. Is a supply of Anti-toxin kept within the district ?—Yes. If so, where ?—Isolation Hospital. Amount used during 1919 ?—72—2,000 units.

“ The Housing Acts, 1890 to 1919.”—Has your Authority determined the procedure to be adopted for the inspection of your District as required by Article I. of the Regulations of 2nd September, 1910 ?—Yes. Has your Authority prepared, as required by Article I. (3) a list of dwelling-houses, the “ early inspection of which is, in the opinion of the M.O.H., desirable ” ?—Yes. Has your Authority designated an officer to undertake the special inspection of houses and to keep the records stipulated by Articles (II.) and (III.) ?—Yes. What officer has been so designated ?—Inspector of Nuisances. Have the necessary books, forms, &c., for keeping the required records been obtained and maintained ?—Yes. Action taken in 1919 under the

Housing Acts:—Total No. of dwelling-houses inspected for purposes of the Housing Acts (not including inspections *re* Nuisances, &c.) ?—641. No. of dwelling-houses specially inspected under Sec. 17 of the Act of 1909, *i.e.*, with a view to ascertaining whether any dwelling-houses are unfit for human habitation ?—641. Have the particulars of these inspections, as specified in Article II. (1) to (8), and Article III. (1) to (8), of the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910, been fully recorded ?—Yes. No. of dwelling-houses considered unfit for human habitation ?—55. No. of representations to Authority with a view to making Closing Orders ?—5. No. of Closing Orders made ?—1. No. of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied without making Closing Orders (under Section 15) ?—None. No. of dwelling-houses put into a fit state of habitation after making Closing Orders ?—None. No. of dwelling-houses demolished ?—5. General character of defects found to exist ?—Dampness, closet accommodation, yard pavement, and refuse receptacle.

Is there a deficiency of housing accommodation ? If so, where, and to what extent ?—Yes, general shortage.

Has a Housing Committee been appointed, as suggested in Memorandum of Ministry of Health, 7th August, 1919 ?—Yes.

Are steps being taken under the Housing, Town Planning, &c., Act, 1919, to meet the deficiency ?—Yes.

What stage had been reached in this connection on 31st December, 1919 ?—Lay-outs for 180 houses on three sites approved by Ministry of Health.

No. of new houses built during 1919 by and at the cost of the District Council ? None. By private enterprise ? None.

Source of the Water Supply ?—Deep wells at Brindle and Bamber Bridge ; supply taken from Thirlmere Scheme, Manchester Corporation. What is its condition ? Excellent. Possibilities of contamination ? None. Any insufficiency, and where ?—None. Nature of extensions (if any) during the year ?—None.

Is Scavenging and Removal of House Refuse carried out satisfactorily for whole of district ?—Yes.

How performed (state whether by Sanitary Authority, Contract, or Occupiers of Houses ?)—Council.

If Privy Middens exist, are they emptied by day or night ? A few remain ; day scavenging.

How is the Refuse disposed of ?—Tips.

Has a Destructor been provided ?—No.

Sewage Disposal Works. Method of Treatment ?—Precipitation and filtration.

What is the character of the Drainage System ? Any developments during year ?—The major portion of the Township is sewered. No developments.

Areas, or Townships, without proper drainage system ?—Outlying portions of the district.

Action taken—Drain Testing, Flushing, &c. ?—Both, when called for.

Action taken with regard to the Pollution of Streams ?—None. The Ribble Joint Committee supervise this.

Canal Boats : No. inspected ?—None.

What is the condition of the Bakehouses ?—Fairly satisfactory. No. ? 18.

What is the condition of the Slaughter-houses ?—1 excellent, others not satisfactory. No. ?—4. No. Registered ?—1. No. Licensed ?—None. Has a Public Abattoir been provided ?—No.

What is the condition of the Lodging-houses ?—None.

What is the sanitary condition of the Schools ?—Satisfactory.

Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops—

Are they periodically inspected ?—Yes.

What is their condition ?—Some excellent, others not so good.

Have Regulations been made under the Order of the L.G.B. ?—Yes.

Are they enforced ?—Yes, where necessary.

Amount of air space in cubic feet required for each cow ?—(a)

Where cows are habitually grazed ?—New cowsheds ; (b)

Where cows are not habitually grazed ?—800.

Total No. of Cowkeepers ?—45. No. on Register ?—45. No. of inspections during year ?—23.

Total No. of Dairymen or Milk Purveyors ?—46. No. on Register ?—46.

Any arrangements for veterinary inspection of dairy cows ?—None.

Action taken (if any) as to tuberculous milk ?—Report on 1 tuberculous cow received ; animal slaughtered.

Inspection of Food—

Amount condemned or surrendered as unfit for human consumption—

(a) Tuberculous carcasses and parts ?—None.

(b) Diseased, unsound, or unwholesome meat (other than above) ?—5 chickens.

(c) Other food stuffs ?—None.

No. of Legal Proceedings and result ?—None.

Department of Inspector of Nuisances—

No. of Notices served—

Informal ?—568.

Statutory ?—30.

No. of Nuisances abated ?—200.

No. of Legal Proceedings taken, and result ?—None.

Closets and Ashpits—

Privy Middens :—No. of Middens ?—130. No. of Closets attached to these Middens ?—259.

No. of Pail Closets ?—961.

No. of Ashpits (excluding Middens) ?—822.

No. of Fresh Water Closets ?—1,270.

No. of Portable Receptacles for refuse ?—1,680.

No. of Waste Water Closets ?—327.

No. of Privy Closets converted during 1919 to Fresh W.C.'s?—16.
To Waste W.C.'s?—None. To Pails, &c.?—2.

No. of Pail Closets converted to Fresh W.C.'s?—6. Waste
W.C.'s?—None.

No. of Waste W.C.'s converted to Fresh W.C.'s?—None.

Does Council contribute towards the cost of conversion?—Yes;
If so, how much?—One half the cost. (Sec. 39 Public Health
Acts Amendment Act, 1907.)

What kind of closet accommodation is being provided for new
property?—Fresh W.C.'s.

Smoke—

No. of Observations?—None.

No. of Legal Proceedings taken and result?—None.

What is the time limit allowed for the emission of black smoke per
hour?—None fixed.

Has the Authority adopted—

“The Infectious Disease (Prevention) Act, 1890” ?—Yes.

“The Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907” ?—Yes.

“The Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890” ?—Yes.

Has a Health Visitor been appointed by the Local Council?—The
County Council have undertaken this work.

Has any; and, if so, what action been taken by the Council respecting
Child Welfare Work?—County Council deal with this matter.

Has any scheme been prepared in regard to the Supply of Food and
Milk for Expectant and Nursing Mothers, and of Milk for
Infants?—Yes.

Is there a District Nursing Association in the District?—Yes. How
many District Nurses employed?—1.

If so, does any arrangement exist between the Council and the
Association in respect of Child Welfare Work?—No, the
work is done by the County Council.

If no such arrangement exists, does the Association voluntarily
undertake Child Welfare Work?—No.

Chief Sanitary requirements of District:—Continuance of conversion
of bog closets to water carriage; houses, building of; abolition
of slaughter-houses.

WALTON-LE-DALE URBAN DISTRICT.

Annual Report of the Inspector of Nuisances.

*To the Chairman and Members
of the Walton-le-Dale Urban District Council.*

Gentlemen,

I beg to submit the following statement of work accomplished since the 1st May, 1919, the date on which I recommenced my duties.

During the past eight months' inspections, reinspections, and general surveys have been made to ascertain the extent and nature of the general insanitary conditions, overcrowding, and insanitary premises reported by the County Medical Officer of Health in his Report on the District, dated 17th April, 1918.

To obtain information required by the Housing Commissioner, a complete survey was made of all the houses in the district and fully recorded. Since the survey was made one house has been closed and demolished, owing to its delapidated, defective, and dangerous condition.

Number of houses inspected	...	...	...	639
Number of houses which are considered to be unfit for human habitation	...	...	...	55
Number of representations made to the Local Authority with a view to the making of Closing Orders	...	...	...	5
Number of houses closed,	...	...	...	1
Number of houses demolished	...	...	...	5

(Four of the houses demolished were closed in 1918).

The general character of the defects found were—

Dampness, due to—

Defective roofs.

„ rainwater conductors.

Defective drains.

„ yard pavement.

„ closet accommodation.

„ refuse receptacles.

„ ventilation.

The following is a list of 15 Special Reports of insanitary premises which were made and submitted to, and dealt with, by the Council :—

9 cowsheds.

4 blocks of houses.

1 School.

1 tripe works.

BAKEHOUSES.

Two notices were received from the Factory and Workshops Inspector of bakehouses requiring lime-washing. Both were immediately dealt with, and the work carried out.

There are no underground bakehouses.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS, AND MILKSHOPS.

Twenty-three cowsheds were inspected, seven were considered satisfactory, three were closed, and defects at the remainder are receiving attention.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

All precautions were taken to prevent the spread of infectious disease—73 premises, 285 parcels of bedding, 71 beds and 10 schools were disinfected ; 12 parcels of bedding were destroyed.

WATER.

Five samples of water were taken and submitted for analysis to the County Analyst, who reports four as satisfactory and one as being very hard, and otherwise of doubtful purity.

(The latter report is receiving the attention of the Council).

NOTICES.

Number of Notices served—

Statutory	...	...	...	30	
Informal	...	...	...	568	
				—	598
Nuisances remedied	...	...	...	335	
					—
„	receiving attention		...	263	
					==

**Summary of Work done during the year ending
December 31st, 1919.**

Number of Privy Middens cleansed	...	...	...	195
„ Excreta Pails cleansed	...	...	...	49,972
„ Ashpails cleansed	...	...	...	83,772
„ Ashpits cleansed	...	...	...	2,094
Complaints...	...	...	...	167
Inspection of Dwelling-houses	...	...	...	639
„ Infected Houses	...	...	...	60
„ Schools	...	...	...	7
„ Cowsheds, Dairies, and Milkshops	...	...	...	23
„ Slaughter-houses	...	...	...	5
„ Yards	...	...	...	639
„ Drains	...	...	...	639
„ Re-inspections	...	...	...	380
„ Tripe Works	...	...	...	1
Circular-letters sent	...	...	...	125
Notices served for Causes of Dampness—				
	Defective Roofs	...	...	68
	„ Rainwater Conductors	...	...
	„ Brickwork	...	...
„	Defective Closet Pails	...	...	27
„	„ Drains	...	...	30
„	„ Water Closets	...	...	16
„	„ Slopstone Pipes	...	...	18
„	„ Limewashing	...	...	12
„	„ General Nuisances	...	...	12
Notices served to Convert Privies into W.C.'S				30
„	Flag Yard	...	...	132
„	Convert Pails into W.C.'S	...	...	10
„	Abolish Ashpits	...	...	99
„	Provide Ashpails	...	...	144

Samples of Water taken for Analysis	...	...	...	...	5
House Drains tested	...	...	...	...	5
School Drains tested	...	...	...	...	1
Houses disinfected	...	...	...	...	73
Schools disinfected	...	...	...	...	10
Parcels of Bedding disinfected	...	...	...	...	285
Beds disinfected	...	...	...	...	71
Beds destroyed	...	...	...	...	12

NICHOLAS BARON,

Inspector of Nuisances.

Council Offices,
Bamber Bridge.

